THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). According to the information received from the WHO (SEARO), the World Health Organisation has not submitted recently any report on the disease patten prevailing in the country. However, they are in the process of preparing country summaries for the Eighth World Health Situation Report.

[*Translation*]

Letters from Members of Parliament

4377. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters/representations/memorandum received by him from the Members of Parliament during the last six months;

(b) the number out of them which have been acknowledged within fifteen days;

(c) the number out of them which were not finally replied to; and

(d) the reasons for not acknowledging within fifteen days and not sending final reply within three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) 1810 such communications were received during the period from 26.6.91 to 20.3.92.

(b) 1389

(c) and (d). The information is being collected and will be paid on the table of the House.

Passenger Facilities at Stations of U.P.

4378. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passenger facilities at the main stations of Jaunpur, Salempur and adjoining station on Bhatni-Varanasi section and Amroha in Uttar Pradesh are inadequate; and

(b) if so, the action being contemplated to improve these facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Luggage Charges

4379. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had announced an increase of 30% in luggage charges as compared to the parcel rates to take effect from January 16, 1992;

(b) if so, whether the passengers travelling in lower class are allowed less quantity of luggage free of charge, if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the reasons for such decision in particular and the hike in general?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-

LIKARJUN): (a) The luggage rates have been fixed at 30% higher than the General Parcel rates with effect from 16.1.1992 as against 10% earlier. The increase is approximately 18%.

(b) There is no reduction in the free allowance on luggage for any class because of the hike in luggage rate.

(c) The luggage rate has been increased in order to discourage booking of merchandise as luggage and thereby taking away the limited space available in brakevans for stacking personal luggage of passengers.

Sakri-Hasanpur Rail Line

4380. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of Sakri-Hasanpur new railway line; and

(b) the steps being taken for its early completion and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) This is not an approved work.

(b) Does not arise.

Doubling of Bandel-Katwa line

4381. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for doubling the rail line between Bandel and Katwa of Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the time frame within which it is proposed to be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Constraint of resources. However, certain traffic facility works have been taken up on the section.

Electrification of Bandel-Katwa Section

4382. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for electrification of the Bandel-Katwa Section of Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the time by which construction work is likely to be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) A proposal for taking up electrification of the Bendel-Katwa section has been sent to the Planning Commission for their approval.

(b) and (c). The time schedule will be decided on receipt of approval of Planning Commission.

Manufacture of Medicines by Bogus Companies

4383. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether unlicensed bogus companies are also manufacturing medicines; and

(b) if so, the number of such companies